

Comet Comments

SCHOOL ISSUE - OCTOBER 2023



From
the
Principal



Saturn App

The Saturn App is a shared calendar app that is marketed as an application to help high school students organize their schedules. Districts from around the country are warning parents that the application may put personal identification at risk. The Saturn App is available through Apple's App Store. The Saturn App has raised concerns over the security of private information. Photos of class schedules that students upload can expose student information to the public. The app can also tell other users who else is in the class. Students are able to log into the app by using cell phone numbers and social media platforms. Students can then friend each other, but there is no guarantee that the student sending the friend request is actually a student.

Talk to your child about the Saturn App so he/she can understand the concerns of using the application. The school already offers a calendar application through Google that students are able to use. Coloma Community Schools takes the safety of all students seriously. We will keep you informed with any other information that will be helpful to you.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Nov 2nd: SAC Leadership Conference

Nov 8th: Late Start, School starts at 10

Nov 20th: Progress Reports

Nov 22 - 24th: Thanksgiving Break

Nov 29th: Late Start, School starts at 10

Dec 1 - 3: Robotics Competition - Gym

Student Success at Coloma High School is our number one priority. Our students have many opportunities to choose classes that they are interested in. CTE classes in welding, automotive, nursing, and business are classes that we offer on campus.

Students also have the opportunity to take classes off campus for cadet teaching and culinary arts, to name a few. Students also have the opportunity to apply for Early Middle College and to take college level classes through dual enrollment. These are all choices students have at their disposal to choose an avenue they are passionate about.

We want all students to take advantage of these different choices throughout their career here at Coloma High School. To help make sure all students have these opportunities, we also have different interventions in place to help students when they are struggling. We offer Homework Hour Mondays through Thursdays from 3:00pm-4:00pm for students who need a quiet place to get their school work done. A certified teacher is there to supervise and help students when needed. Students have an RTI period built in their schedules. During that time, students are in a classroom with one of our teachers. During that time, the teacher is an advocate for the students in class. The teacher checks student grades, missing assignments, and answers questions the student might have about school work. The teacher also works with students on organization and study habits. That way students can get extra help in their classes from their teachers who are there to support them.

Coloma Community Schools is here to give the students in our community opportunities to explore and challenge themselves. Our goal is to inspire our students to achieve and empower them with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful. Our community deserves that, and will be better in the future for it.

MISSION STATEMENT:

We will inspire all students to achieve at high levels
and empower them for their future success.

INSPIRE TO ACHIEVE –EMPOWER FOR SUCCESS

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

College Applications, FAFSA, and Scholarships

November is National Scholarship Month! Paying for college might feel overwhelming, but there are many ways to reduce the cost to your family.

1. **The first step in securing any kind of financial aid is completing the FAFSA.** (LATEST UPDATE: FAFSA is not anticipated to open until late December 2023)

To complete the FAFSA, go to www.studentaid.gov and create an account. The earlier you complete the FAFSA, the more financial aid is available.

2. Has your student received Medicaid for two consecutive years between ages 9 and now? They may be eligible for the Michigan Tuition Incentive Program (TIP), which provides significant financial assistance at various institutions. Complete your FAFSA and go to the MiSSG Student Portal to determine your eligibility at: www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid.
3. Whether or not students qualify for financial aid, everyone can apply for scholarships. Scholarships fall into three general categories:
 - a. **National/state scholarships** are often large prizes with large applicant pools and can be found through reliable websites such as Fastweb and CollegeBoard.

Click [HERE](#) to register for a free account with Going Merry, which is a simplified way of searching for scholarships. If the link does not work, type in: <https://www.goingmerry.com/c/gregorys-yo45kw>
 - b. **Local scholarships** are available to CHS students or Berrien County students only, and applications are available at: www.berriencommunity.org/scholar.
 - c. **School/program-based scholarships** are listed on college websites and are only available to accepted students who meet certain eligibility requirements. We recommend that students focus on local and college-based scholarships.

For more information on FAFSA, scholarships, and/or college applications please contact either:

- Mr. Coburn at: ccoburn@ccs.coloma.org or
- Mr. Shaffer at: gshaffer@ccs.coloma.org.

DON'T DECIDE
THAT **YOU**
CAN'T
BEFORE YOU
DISCOVER
THAT YOU
CAN

Follow Us

The art program here at the junior high and high school has social media pages! Check us out for the latest photos of student artwork, art club, and what's happening in the 6-12th grade art classes!

 **Coloma Visual Arts** 

EARLY MIDDLE COLLEGE

October 17 - All current Sophomore's heard a presentation about the amazing opportunities to earn a college degree while in high school for FREE through our Early/Middle College program.

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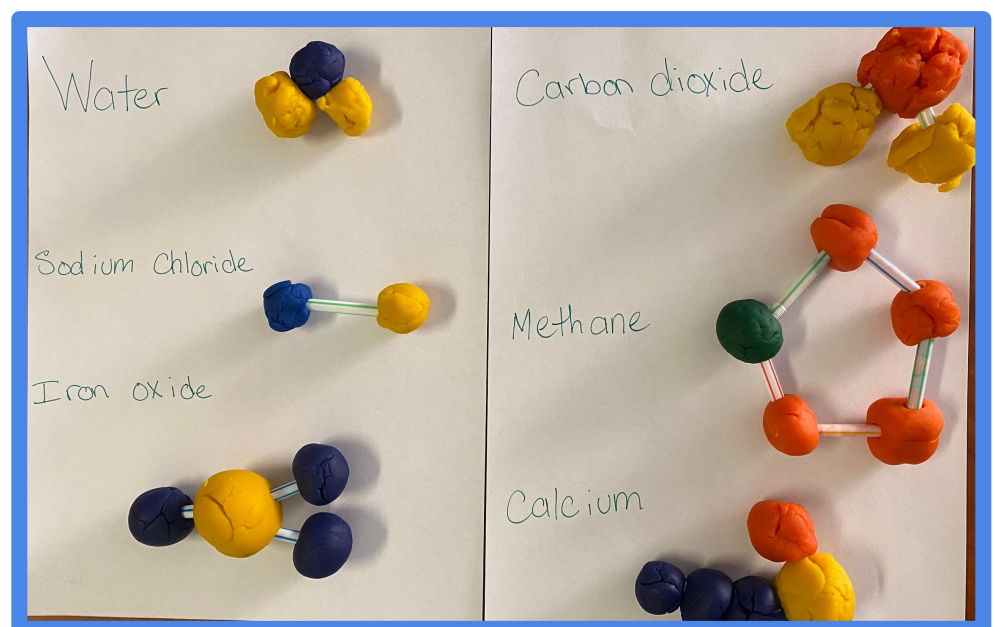
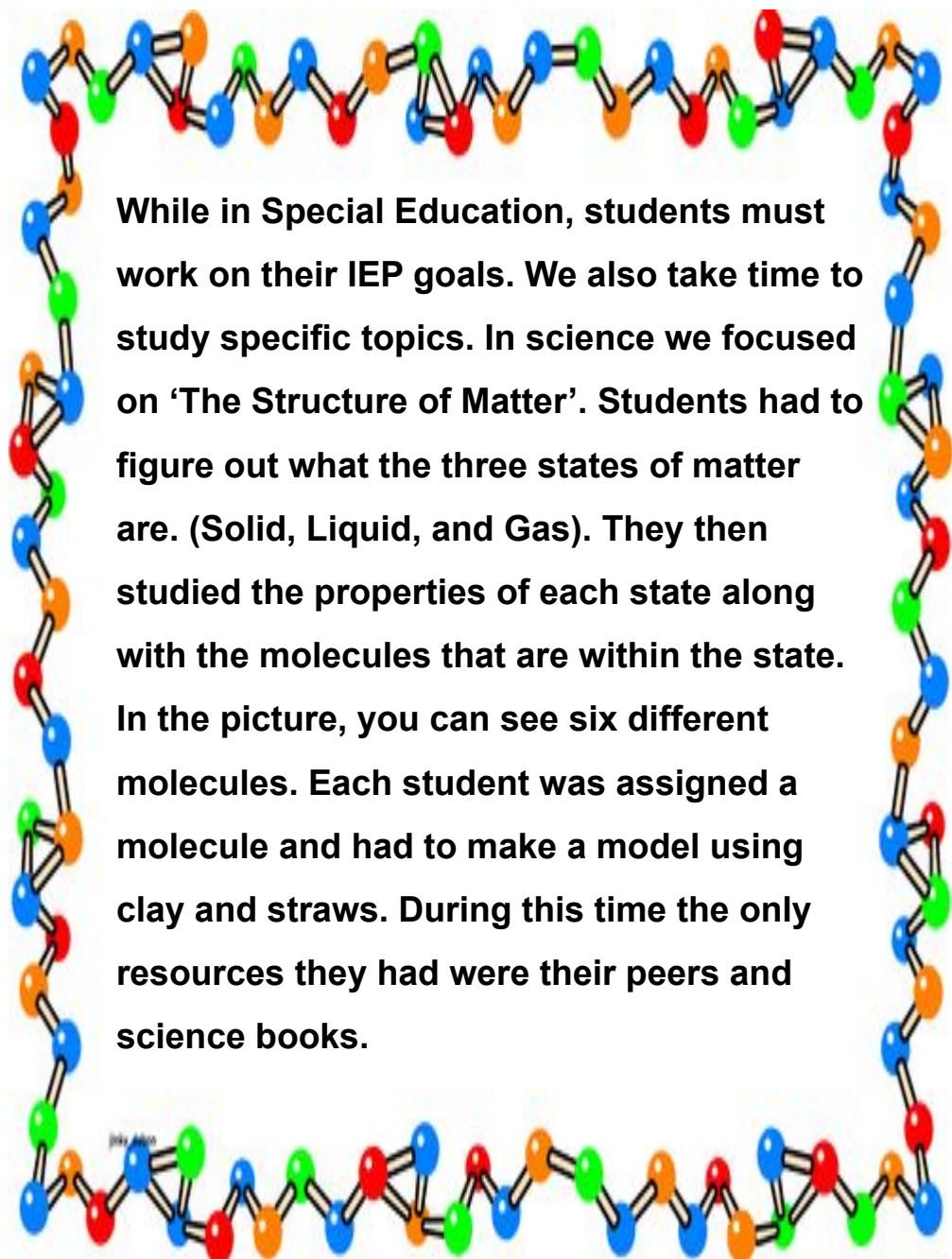


Black Death

The Black death circulated around the social studies department. CHS World History classes have been studying Networks of exchange. Networks of exchange brought about culture, trade, wealth, religions and disease. The students were able to learn about global pandemics first hand with a simulation of the Black Plague. Students went on six journeys to different stops around the world and some did not survive the bubonic plague. Good news is, students are more likely to pass Mr. Mead's World history class than get The Black Plague!!



MAKING MOLECULES



While in Special Education, students must work on their IEP goals. We also take time to study specific topics. In science we focused on 'The Structure of Matter'. Students had to figure out what the three states of matter are. (Solid, Liquid, and Gas). They then studied the properties of each state along with the molecules that are within the state. In the picture, you can see six different molecules. Each student was assigned a molecule and had to make a model using clay and straws. During this time the only resources they had were their peers and science books.

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Coloma Glad-Peach High School T-shirt Art Contest began in 2014 and the festival has seen a variety of interesting winning designs over the years. Winner Aidan Cripe stated, *“I tried to make a cool design for the community and to get my name as an art student known. I created a fall theme with only leaves in color to contrast with the festival images for the community.”* Aidan created the design in the high school art club last year and plans to continue to create designs for area festivals and other community activities.

Martin Quigley Jr., serving as a purchasing agent and advisor to the festival, noted the contest over the past 10 years has been a great partnership with Coloma High School and allows the students the opportunity to actively be involved in the community festival. Coloma High School art teacher, Megan Ferguson is extremely cooperative in incorporating the competition within class projects and art club. The 2024 Coloma Glad-Peach T-shirt contest rules will be submitted to Coloma High School before the beginning of this next school year and will include a secondary project of creating a new Glad- Peach Festival logo for potential use in 2024 and beyond.

High School Art Club Starting October 20th! Sign up now!

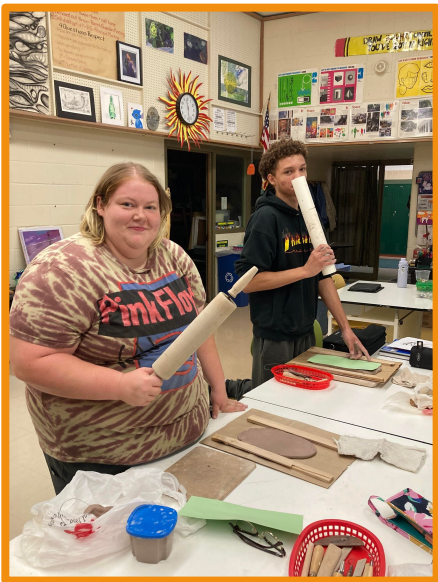
Looking for a chance to get creative? Want to paint? Want to draw? Want to woodburn? Play art games? Enjoy the company of fellow artists? Or just have something to do after school on Fridays? Art Club will be starting up in October. We have some new activities planned for this year! Our first meeting is October 20th. Our meetings are every other Friday and run until 4:30. We celebrate members that attend regularly at the end of the school year with a party and giveaways.

**Please sign up on the sheet provided outside the art room.
Hope to see you there!**



Aidan Cripe Wins Glad-Peach Festival T-shirt Design Contest

Derriana Beard demonstrates slam wedging clay. You pick up the clay and throw it down on the table over and over again. This helps to condense the clay, reduce air pockets, and even the moisture quality throughout the clay.



Students Rosa Mock and Jaylen Draughter demonstrate that you can use both pvc pipe and a rolling pin to create an ideal slab out of clay.

Ceramics class has taken off this year and students are already elbows deep in their first project; creating a monster/creature mug. Students are learning how to roll out slabs, slip and score features, and hollow out thick horns to attach to their mugs. Students first researched an artist that uses monsters in their work as inspiration for their projects. Students will be finished with their mugs next week and in a couple of weeks will be able to paint/glaze them after they have dried and been fired. Here are some examples of their ideas!



Jonathan Lenox



Tiera Taylor

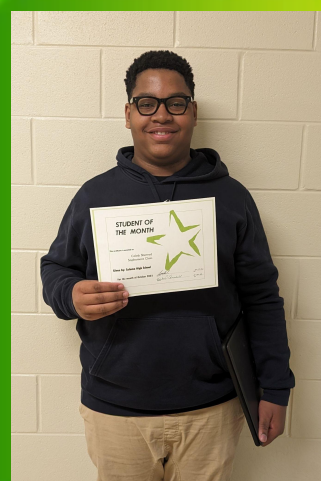
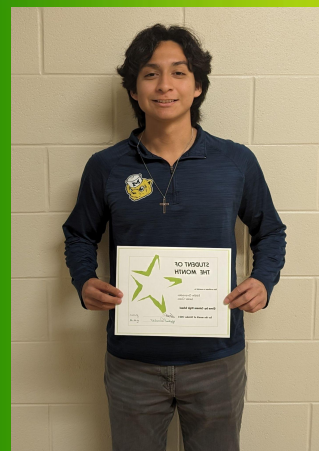


Students from PHCA (professional health careers academy) and CNA (certified nurse aide) represented Coloma High School at Career Pathway Day, on Friday, Oct 20 at the Mendel Center. PHCA and CNA students answered questions on the different health science programs that Coloma offers. In addition, after watching the students demonstrate, the 9th graders got a chance for some hands-on practice.



**9TH GRADE -
LIZBET ACEVEDO**

**10TH GRADE -
CALEB SHERROD**



**11TH GRADE -
EDDIE GRANADOS**

**12TH GRADE -
BRIELLE HICKS**



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